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6 November 1979

Worldwide Report

NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT AND PROLIFERATION

No. 17



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

NUCLEAR TIMETABLE REVISED; BRAZIL'S TECHNICIANS TO TRAIN IN U.S.

PY041122 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Oct 79 p 6 FY

[Excerpts] After a meeting with the Higher Energy Council--and advisory board of the Mines and Energy Ministry--Minister Cesar Cals announced yesterday in Rio that the Brazilian nuclear timetable will be revised. He explained that the mine plants scheduled for 1990 will not all be operational until 1995. He also said that the contracts to build the next plants will be signed as of 1980, two contracts every 2 years. Moreover, he added, the Kraftwerk Union (KWU) enterprise will have preference provided its prices are the same as those offered on the international market.

Minister Cals also announced the government's intention to come to an agreement with the Princeton Laboratory in New Jersey, United States, aimed at developing research on the process of nuclear fusion. A delegation of Brazilian technicians including Minister Cesar Cals and Hervasio Carvalho, director of the National Nuclear Energy Commission, will go to the United States next month in order to start a joint program which will give the Brazilian group, which is already working on the development of this technology, better training.

The mines and energy minister asserted that as of 1986 Brazil will be able to sign contracts with other countries, especially Latin American countries, for the transfer of nuclear fuel cycle technology, excluding those items covered by the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement. According to Cals, Brazil is already in a position to assist other countries in the technology for obtaining a nuclear plant license and in prospecting for and processing uranium.

This subject was discussed yesterday during a meeting held by the Higher Energy Council with Ney Freire, NUCLEBRAS [Brazilian Nuclear Corporations] industrial director. According to Cesar Cals there are 400 Brazilian technicians at present being trained in various phases of the nuclear fuel cycle. This technology will be used in 1986. It involves the transformation of uranium concentrate into hexafluoride, uranium enrichment, manufacturing of fuel rods and uranium reprocessing.

CSO: 5100

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

JAPAN-U.S. AGREE TO TALKS ON PACIFIC N-FUEL STORAGE PLAN

OW221331 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 22 Sep 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, Sept 22 KYODO--Japanese and U.S. officials agreed here Saturday to study "within the next months" the possibility of undertaking joint research for the American-proposed creation of a used nuclear fuel storage facility on a Pacific island.

The United States proposes to create the facility with joint preliminary research with Japan to pool used nuclear fuels from Pacific countries, including Japan, the United States, South Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines, for storage for 25 to 30 years. The agreement came when the working-level officials met at the Foreign Ministry to discuss the proposal.

The U.S. proposal is said to be one of the major pillars of the U.S. nuclear nonproliferation policy calling for postponement of the commercial use of plutonium obtained from the cycling process of used nuclear fuel. The proposal was first conveyed to Japan in February and the United States then said that it planned to construct the facility either on the Palmyra, Wake or Midway Islands.

At Saturday's meeting, the U.S. officials were understood to have explained to their Japanese counterparts the survey so far conducted on the natural environment of the three islands.

Japan's nuclear policy calls for cycling of all used nuclear fuel. The American proposal to store used fuel for such a long time will thus frustrate the Japanese policy.

Under the Japan-U.S. atomic power cooperation agreement, however, Japan is required to obtain U.S. consent when Japan sends used nuclear fuel to other countries for reprocessing. Everytime Japan seeks such U.S. consent, the United States presses for cooperation with its nuclear nonproliferation policy. The Japanese officials at Saturday's meeting were thus believed to have been forced to promise support to the idea of storage facility.

CSO: 5100

CANADA REQUESTS JAPAN TO IMPORT CANDU REACTOR

OM290235 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 29 Sep 79 OM

[Text] Tokyo, Sept 29, KYODO--Canada has reiterated its request for Japan to import its Candu nuclear power reactors, according to Masumi Esaki, minister of international trade and industry. Esaki told a news conference Friday night the request was made by Canadian Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Ramon Hnatyshyn when they conferred in Paris during the four-day meeting of energy ministers from industrial nations that ended Thursday. Esaki, who represented Japan, returned home Friday.

Esaki said that when he briefed Hnatyshyn on a recent Japan Atomic Energy Commission decision against introducing the heavy-water type nuclear reactors, the Canadian minister replied that his government earnestly hoped Japan would give serious consideration to the issue from the standpoint of promoting economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

This is the first time since the Japanese Atomic Energy Commission decided against the Canadian reactors in August that Japan and Canada discussed the issue on a ministerial level. The issue has become one of the most important economic problems pending between the two countries. Despite the AEC decision, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry still favors introducing the Candu reactors. Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark asked Japan to import the reactors when he visited Japan last June to attend the Tokyo economic summit.

CSO: 5100

EUROPE MAY BE IMPORTANT MARKET FOR AUSTRALIAN URANIUM

Melbourne THE AGE in English 20 Sep 79 p 19

[Report by Tony Walker and Nigel Wilson]

[Text]

Australia's chances of selling uranium in Europe have increased markedly though new contracts still appear some time off.

In an unexpected move, France has lifted its long-standing objections to the EEC Commission negotiating nuclear deals on behalf of the nine EEC members.

The commission now has mandates to negotiate a safeguards deal for Australian uranium supplied to the EEC and an international convention on the physical protection of nuclear materials.

But this still does not seem to satisfy the letter of Australia's stringent controls on uranium sales.

The Foreign Minister, Mr. Peacock, said in Canberra yesterday it was a development of major significance.

He told Parliament the way was now open for exports of uranium to the EEC.

France had been holding up agreement because it objected to the commission negotiating deals on behalf of member countries.

A spokesman for the Trade and Resources Minister, Mr. Anthony, said last night the EEC's uranium requirements could be 20,000 tonnes by 1985 and 30,000 tonnes by 1990.

The agreement opened a "significant potential market for Australia," the spokesman said.

Mr. Peacock said Australia had consistently emphasised the importance of concluding an agreement with Euratom — the EEC nuclear agency — as soon as possible.

He said the Government had always considered an agreement with Euratom was the most practical means of meeting Australia's nuclear safeguards requirements for the export of uranium to the European Community.

A working party to be set up by EEC foreign ministers study French proposals to change EEC rules on uranium supplies.

(Negotiations on the physical protection of nuclear materials — in effect an anti-terrorist measure — are scheduled to open in Vienna on October 15.)

French officials called for a revision of the 1957 treaty creating Euratom to make the rules on nuclear supplies more flexible.

The EEC had been seeking powers for about two years to negotiate the uranium deal with Australia.

Most Australian uranium suppliers have had talks with potential European customers, the latest probably within the past three months during a visit by executives of Peko Walsend.

Australian uranium producers have said they could sign a contract tomorrow if the buyers knew who was to provide the product and who would control it.

Under current Australian policy, uranium buyers must first give consent to both the transfer and reprocessing of uranium.

Thus, it is claimed, Australia would keep control of uranium right through the enrichment process and to its ultimate disposal.

It is the ultimate use of the plutonium created by the reprocessing which is likely to cause the major concern under negotiations between Australia and the EEC.

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

AUSTRALIA CONSIDERS SALE OF RANGER URANIUM PROJECT

New Company Proposed

Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1130 GMT 2 Oct 79 OW

[Text] Peko-Wallsend, a partner in the Ranger uranium project, has tendered an offer to buy the federal government's half share. Directors of the company today proposed that the government's 50-percent equity and Peko-Wallsend's 15-percent interest should be combined under a new company called Energy Resources of Australia Limited.

They said Peko-Wallsend had received strong written support from overseas power utilities and banks which could provide enough contracts to insure immediate viability of the Ranger project. No value was put on the offer, but as a partner Peko-Wallsend has the right to match any other bids.

When tenders closed for the government's share today there were 16 sides from companies in Australia and overseas. The government still has to decide if it will sell its interest in Ranger but has undertaken to consider all proposals.

Tenders Received From 17

OW031628 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1130 GMT 3 Oct 79 OW

[Text] Some of the world's major uranium industry organizations have submitted tenders for the federal government's half share in the Ranger uranium project in the Northern Territory. The Minister for Trade and Resources, Mr Anthony, formally opened the tenders in Canberra this morning.

Mr Anthony said the proposals indicated that the organizations were fully committed to the further development of the nuclear power industry. The government is considering 16 tenders lodged before noon yesterday and another one received after the noon deadline but apparently delivered to parliament house earlier in the day.

Mr Anthony said the government had to decide whether to sell the whole or part of its interest in Ranger, and if it did sell on what terms and conditions. Government departments would study the proposals, and he hoped to make a recommendation to the government soon after he returned from an overseas trip on 17 October.

The departments are considering tenders from Australia, the United States, Britain, Canada, Japan, Korea, Italy, France and Germany. Ranger has been a joint project involving the government and two companies, Peko-Wallsend and EZ Industries.

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT APPROVES BIDS FOR NUCLEAR PLANTS

Atucha II, Heavy Water Plant

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1315 GMT 1 Oct 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Oct (TELAM)--President Jorge Rafael Videla today received in his office Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), and gave him a decree accepting a bid for the construction of the Atucha II nuclear plant and the heavy water plant. In this regard, Admiral Castro Madero will give a press conference at 1100 today at CNEA headquarters on 8250 Libertador Avenue in this capital.

Swiss, FRG Contracts

PY011607 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1510 GMT 1 Oct 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Oct (NA)--Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), announced at noon today that the CNEA has been authorized to accept the offer presented by the Swiss enterprise Sulzer Brothers Limited from Winterthur and to carry out negotiations aimed at signing the contract for the construction of a heavy water plant producing 250 tons per year.

The CNEA was also authorized to accept the offer presented by the FRG enterprise Kraftwerk Union from Erlangen to participate in the Argentine nuclear development plan and to carry out negotiations aimed at signing contracts for the construction of an engineering enterprise in the form of a corporation for the joint construction of the Atucha II nuclear plant.

CSO: 5100

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

CASTRO MADERO DISCUSSES AWARDING OF BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR CONTRACTS

PY021139 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1917 GMT 1 Oct 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 1 Oct (TELAM)--Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], announced today that the Argentine Government has accepted the offer made by the Swiss Sulzer Brothers company for the construction of a 250-ton-per-year heavy water plant.

At a press conference, Castro Madero explained that the executive branch authorized the CNEA to accept the offer made by the FRG Kraftwerk Union company to participate in the development of the Argentine nuclear plan and to hold negotiations for signing the contracts for the creation of an engineering corporation for the joint construction of the Atucha II nuclear plant. Castro Madero added that all offers were thoroughly evaluated and that the choice of a reactor type implied in this case the selection of an associate for the creation of a mixed engineering company through which the CNEA could acquire as much capacity as possible in the management of large projects of this type, with the increasing participation of national enterprises and engineering companies.

Castro Madero then continued, saying that the decision to create a mixed engineering company was made considering the degree of autonomous development which the country has achieved so far and which permits the CNEA to associate, without any feeling of inferiority, with foreign companies to carry out specific projects, still maintaining the decision-making power of nuclear matters in the hands of the Argentine Government with due respect for international commitments which are juridically and politically in line with our concept of sovereignty.

Consequently, Castro Madero said, the decision had to take into account two additional points. First, not to eliminate future competition between the two currently possible suppliers of natural uranium and heavy water reactors, thus avoiding becoming dependent on a single supplier for the remaining three nuclear plants, and second, to offer sufficient economic advantages so that a commercial enterprise would accept participation in a mixed engineering company.

Regarding safeguards, Castro Madero stated that Argentina has repeatedly said that its nuclear program is geared exclusively to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and that therefore it has concluded various agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In the present case, Castro Madero finally said, because of the Argentine position and because of the international commitments made by the countries of the two companies whose offers were accepted, the installations to be supplied and the technology to be transferred will also be subject to the safeguards to be agreed to at the governmental level and to be applied by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

BRAZIL 'VICTIM' OF FRG 'TRICK' IN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

PY221710 Paris AFP in Spanish 0327 GMT 22 Sep 79 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 21 Sep (AFP)--Physicist Luis Pinguelli Rosa asserted in statements published here today that the Brazilian Government was the victim of a trick when it signed a general nuclear agreement with the FRG.

Pinguelli Rosa, who is a professor at the physics institute of Rio de Janeiro University, made this statement before the legislative commission which is investigating the scope of the nuclear agreement signed between Brazil and the FRG in 1975.

The scientist demanded "the complete revision of this agreement," stressing that "Brazil disregarded the energy production cost when it chose nuclear energy, because its mind was set on mastering nuclear technology, both for peaceful and military use." Pinguelli Rosa emphasized that "the Germans are assembling nuclear units in Brazilian territory, but they never teach us their techniques or show us the road which will later give us self-determination in this field." The professor demanded a complete revision of the agreement and the establishment of a Latin American policy in the nuclear field to protect the security of the continent.

In another part of his statement, Pinguelli Rosa said that "a democratization is necessary for decisions on nuclear questions, which should be debated and formulated with the participation of the whole community of the nation." He concluded by saying that the Brazilian decision to choose nuclear energy was made prematurely, because the hydroelectric potential of the country will not be exhausted for 30 years.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

NUCLEBRAS SEEKS NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH IRAQ

FRG Technology Not Involved

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 27 Sep 79 p 25 PY

[Excerpts] In a trip surrounded by secrecy, as suits his style, NUCLEBRAS [Brazilian Nuclear Corporations] President Paulo Nogueira Batista will arrive in Baghdad later this week to negotiate with Iraqi officials a plan for cooperation in the nuclear field.

Nogueira Batista will offer the Iraqis assistance in training personnel, transferring technology to handle radioisotopes and uranium and providing knowhow not related to the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement that would require previous approval by the FRG Government and FRG enterprises participating in the program.

To maintain the secrecy surrounding his trip, the name of Nogueira Batista was deliberately not included in the list of members of the Brazilian delegation to the first meeting of the Brazilian-Iraqi joint commission to be held from 29 September to 1 October.

For the same reason, the president of NUCLEBRAS is not an official member of that delegation, but he has the authority to negotiate with the Iraqis the basis for a program of nuclear cooperation in accordance with a plan which was prepared during the visit of Iraq's vice president, Taha Ma'ruf, to Brasilia this past May.

At that time the National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN) set the limits of the assistance program that Brazil may offer to other countries in the future, excluding from it any "sensitive" technology involving uranium enrichment and processing or any other technology that is to be imported from the FRG.

Agreement Signed

PY041545 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Oct 79 p 6 PY

[By special envoy Laura Fonseca]

[Excerpt] New York--Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro announced yesterday that Brazil and Iraq are going to sign a nuclear cooperation agreement that will be one of the most important results to be achieved during the meeting of the joint commission of the two countries that are being held in Baghdad. The Brazilian delegation includes Industry and Commerce Minister Camilo Penna, NUCLEBRAS Chairman Paulo Nogueira Batista Diplomats Paulo Tarso Flecha Lime and Marcos Azambuja.

The Brazilian foreign minister stressed the peaceful nature of the nuclear cooperation between the two countries, denying that Iraq's basic interest is the manufacture of an atomic bomb with which to face a similar threat from Israel. "I am not speaking for the Iraqi Government, and I do not know whether it is interested in nuclear devices. But I can assure you that the Brazilian nuclear program is limited to the peaceful use of atomic energy and therefore we can only offer nuclear cooperation for energy, for use in medicine, agriculture and similar sectors."

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

GABON, FRENCH FIRM TO MINE URANIUM

Seoul HAPTONG in English 0833 GMT 4 Oct 79 SK

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 4 (HAPTONG)--The state-run Korean Electric Company and a French firm will jointly take part in the development of uranium in Gabon, sources at the Energy-Resources Ministry said today. A contract has already been initialled between the state-run Korean firm and Cogema of France on the uranium development project in Gabon, the sources said. Negotiations are under way on the investment share as the Gabonese Government has recently proposed to make its capital involvement in the project, the sources said.

Although a final decision has yet to be made, it is almost certain that 50 per cent of the total investment requirements for the project will be shared by the French investor and the remaining 50 per cent will be equally put up by the Korean firm and Gabonese side, the sources said. In 1978, the state-run Korea Electric Company (KEC) concluded a joint venture contract with Anschutz Co. of the United States and a business interest of Nationalist China (Taiwan) for the joint development of uranium in Paraguay, the sources said. KEC's investment in this project was 4.6 million dollars and the tripartite joint enterprise is now conducting a geo-scientific survey to develop uranium [in] Paraguay, the sources added.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

USSR 'PRESSING' FOR MONITORING OF NUCLEAR TESTS

LDO21015 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 2 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[John Miller dispatch: "Russians Seek Atom Monitors"]

[Text] Moscow--Russia is believed to be pressing Britain to accept electronic listening posts to monitor nuclear tests under a comprehensive test ban treaty. The demand was made at negotiations in Geneva involving the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain. The talks, which began more than two years ago, were resumed last week after the summer recess.

All three countries agreed in January to allow spying by the so-called national seismic stations and there has since been hard bargaining over the numbers and siting.

Moscow source said that Britain objected to having 10 stations costing about 3 million pounds each to build with "running costs" of about 500,000 pounds a year. But Britain carries out its underground tests in the Nevada desert and opposes installing "useless stations" to meet the treaty requirements.

Russian negotiators were said to have conceded there was "not much point" in having 10 stations in Britain and have alternatively suggested they should be sited in places like Hong Kong and the Falkland Islands.

Some reports said Britain was prepared to accept one station.

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AUSTRALIA

URANIUM ADVISORY COUNCIL SCORES GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 14 Sep 79 p 14

[Report from Russell Barton]

[Text] Canberra.--The Federal Government has bypassed the uranium Advisory Council in making a number of decisions affecting the politically-sensitive uranium industry.

The council's first annual report, tabled in Federal Parliament yesterday, is sharply critical of the Government's actions and demands that it be kept fully informed in the future.

A letter from the council, tabled by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Anthony, warns the Government against selling its half share in the Ranger uranium deposit.

The letter makes it clear that the council was not consulted before Mr Anthony invited local and overseas bids for the Ranger stake early last month.

And the council's chairman, Sir Laurence McIntyre, revealed yesterday that the Government had still not consulted the council on the possible sale of its 41.6 per cent interest in the Mary Kathleen Uranium mine, although the intention to sell was announced three years ago.

The annual report says the council has had problems in ensuring that ministers and departments keep it informed on matters relevant to its functions.

It cites two examples:

It was not informed of a Government report in May concerning radiation levels at the Nabarlek mine.

It was not consulted about the watering-down of the 75 per cent local ownership rule when the

Yallirrie project in Western Australia was given the go-ahead in June with 50 per cent foreign interest.

Mr Anthony attributed the lack of communication between the Government and the council to an "inevitable settling-in period during which the relationship between the advisory body and the government is developed."

The Opposition's spokesman on minerals and energy, Mr Paul Keating, said the Government had absolutely ignored the council.

The report said the council had received only one request for advice since being set up in April, 1978, and that had been from the chairman of the National Energy Research Development and Demonstration Council, he said.

Since then the Ranger sale issue was referred to the council. But the request for advice was dated August 6, the day Mr Anthony announced the Government's decision.

Sir Laurence McIntyre said yesterday the council had first learnt of the possible sale through the press.

The council's reply warns that a sale by the government could cause:

A delay in the development of the project.

A loss of confidence in Australia, and particularly Ranger, as a supplier of uranium among consumer countries.

A reduction in public confidence in environmental, safety and other controls and regulations concerning uranium development, including those governing the sale of the product.

It says that some council members feel strongly that if a sale were to take place it should be made to a consortium of demonstrably Australian companies.

Others have suggested that an overseas buyer could have a minority interest in a consortium of otherwise local companies.

"Notwithstanding this concession by some members, the prevailing view of the council is that the Government should continue to retain a substantial interest in Ranger," it says.

"Most members believe that the Government should not at present contemplate selling any of its share."

The council says that if the Government does not sell it should establish a separate commercial authority to manage its interest.

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP URANIUM

Talks on Roxby Downs

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 17 Sep 79 p 1

[Report by Ted Knez]

[Excerpt] South Australia's new Liberal Government will hold urgent talks with mining companies and State Mines Department officials on the development of the mineral-rich Roxby Downs.

The Premier-elect, Mr Tonkin, said last night it could also have immediate discussions with the Federal Government on the question of potential markets for uranium at the site.

The defeated Labor Government had banned all uranium mining and treatment in the State, preventing the development of the Roxby Downs deposits, which also contain vast reserves of gold and copper.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Anthony, said the Liberal win meant Roxby Downs could be developed immediately.

Mr Tonkin said he would call a meeting with Western Mining Corporation and BP Australia, the companies with the Roxby Downs rights, to try to bring the mine into operation before 1984.

He said the new Government would also approach the giant U.S. Dow Chemical Co over the future of the Redcliff petro-chemical plant, which is still undergoing feasibility studies.

The decision on the plant was expected early next year, but Mr Tonkin said his talks

with Dow would be aimed at bringing the starting date forward if the company was committed to the project.

Mr Anthony made his statement on uranium mining yesterday, following the defeat of the Corcoran Government.

He said: "The Olin project near Lake Frome should now be able to get underway and planning for the Roxby Downs project will move ahead with much more confidence."

"I believe the question of development at Roxby Downs was the catalyst that prompted industry and the media in South Australia to make a concerted effort to remove the Labor Party from office."

Mr Anthony said the deposit, of world significance, held the key to the revival of South Australia's prosperity.

"While Labor was in office and maintained its ban on uranium mining, this great deposit of copper, gold and uranium could not be mined."

"Roxby Downs could prove to mean as much to South Australia as the Pilbara does to Western Australia and as the Bowen Basin does to Queensland," he said.

The South Australian Liberal Party crushed the Corcoran Government in Saturday's State election, in a massive 16 per cent swing against the A.L.P.

Federal Government Support

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 18 Sep 79 p 1

[Excerpt] Adelaide: The Federal Government yesterday pledged strong support for the newly-elected South Australian Liberal government's promises to get the massive Roxby Downs and Redcliff projects off the ground.

The Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, made the offer of help in a meeting with the SA Premier-elect, Mr Tonkin, yesterday afternoon.

Mr Tonkin wants the Roxby Downs partners--Western Mining Corporation and BP--to have the big and rich uranium-copper mine in operation by 1966.

He hopes to woo the American Dow Chemical group to push forward with the huge Redcliff petrochemical plant which would use Cooper Basin by-products.

After the meeting, Mr Fraser said that the Federal Government would do everything it could to help the State Government get the projects into operation.

"Obviously, we hope that the partners involved in Roxby Downs will look at their own time scale for the project and see what they can do to advance it," Mr Fraser said.

"The State and the Commonwealth will be working together on the project.

"Our support for Roxby Downs has been there right from the start."

Mr Fraser said it was highly likely that SA would get Loan Council support for any infrastructure borrowing it needed to get Roxby Downs started.

Markets

It was also possible that the Commonwealth, through the Department of Trade, would help with possible overseas markets for uranium.

The Commonwealth would continue to support SA on the Redcliff petrochemical project.

Split in Trade Union Movement

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 20 Sep 79 p 11

[Text]

ADELAIDE — A split developed yesterday in the South Australian trade-union movement over the planned mining of uranium in the State.

The chemical workers sub-branch of the Federated Ironworkers' Association said its members had been involved for years in the processing of uranium into yellow-cake and it was seeking to extend its constitutional coverage to mining.

Other developments yesterday in the uranium mining controversy were:

The State's new Minister for Industrial Affairs, Mr Dean Brown, claimed that the Liberal Government had a mandate for uranium mining and would go ahead with it, subject to the provision of safeguards.

The secretary of the United Trades and Labor Council of SA, Mr R. J. Gregory, said the trade union movement in the State would apply the ACTU ban on the mining and processing of uranium.

The SA branch secretary of the Australian Workers' Union, Mr A. S. Begg, said his union, the biggest in the mining field in the State, would enforce the ACTU ban. He expected confrontation when attempts were made to mine at Roxby Downs.

Other unions, including key transport unions, said they would abide by their own and ACTU and ALP policy against the mining and export of uranium.

The unions set out their policy after the Minister for Mines and Energy, Mr Goldsworth, said on Tuesday that the SA Government would approve uranium mining at Lake Frome in SA's far north almost immediately, subject to an environmental impact study.

AUSTRALIA

TRADE UNIONS CONGRESS REAFFIRMS ANTI-URANIUM POLICY

Executive Recommendation Opposed

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Sep 79 p 4

[Report from Paul Molloy]

[Text]

LEFT-WING unions yesterday began lobbying behind the scenes to block acceptance of an ACTU executive recommendation that uranium mining at Nabarlek and Ranger be accepted as reality.

The controversial executive policy on uranium begins with the statement that few recent issues have divided people as much as the mining and export of uranium.

The congress will be asked on Thursday to accept the recommendation.

Four executive members, including the ACTU senior vice-president, Mr Cliff Dolan, oppose any change to the recommendation for a total ban on uranium mining and export.

The recommendation said it recognised the "dangers" relating to uranium. These included nuclear weapons proliferation, the terrorist threat, adequate safeguards, waste disposal, environmental hazards and Aboriginal land rights.

The executive said most unions would oppose uranium mining, but reality demanded that the ACTU come to terms with continued mining at Ranger and Nabarlek.

"Aborigines had accepted that mining would take place on the two sites."

SAFEGUARDS

Although the waste problem had yet to be solved developments locally and abroad offered promise.

It also said the uranium market was deteriorating, giving Australia the chance to reconsider its attitude.

The executive decision noted growing concern at the operation of nuclear reactors since the Harrisburg incident.

Although giving the green light to the two Northern Territory mines the executive said it was vital that health, safety and working conditions of uranium workers were protected by proper regulation.

It also called for stronger safeguards and said the Government's participation in Ranger should not be sold.

It was vital that further research be made on non-nuclear energy alternatives, the environmental safety of nuclear plants and disposal.

During the weekend two executive members indicated that efforts would be made to have the executive recommendation rejected.

Mr Pat Clancy said his union, the Builders Workers Industrial Union,

was meeting other unions opposed to uranium mining to discuss policy.

He said the uranium issue had been placed "very low" on the congress agenda and moves were underway to have it promoted "to enable proper discussions."

Newcastle Trades Hall Council and four unions — the BWIU, Australian Railways Union, Australian Teachers Federation and the Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwrights Union — have items on the agenda stating their total opposition to uranium mining and export.

The BWIU calls for the support of the Aborigines "who have suffered the most with the development of uranium mining in Australia."

The ARU says it views with concern the dilution of trade policy on uranium.

About 500 demonstrators gathered outside the congress to protest at proposed changes to uranium policy.

They were addressed by several delegates, including the Victorian secretary of the AMWSU, Mr John Halfpenny, who urged a tougher union attitude on uranium.

New Officials Against Uranium

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Sep 79 p 11

[Text]

MELBOURNE: Supporters of an anti-uranium policy appear to have won control of the ACTU executive.

Election results for executive positions announced yesterday could give the anti-uranium forces an 11-9 control on the new executive.

This would appear to make any further move to water down ACTU policy against uranium mining more difficult.

Two key elements emerged from the election of the new executive, which will come into operation at the end of this week's congress.

The first involved the amalgamation between the ACTU and its white-collar union equivalent, the Australian Council of Salaried and Professional Associations.

MERGER

The ACSPA, which got three executive positions in the ACTU amalgamation deal, had a strong policy against uranium mining.

The second involved the attitude of the Victorian Trades Hall Council secretary, Mr Ken Stone. The VTHC has a strong policy against uranium mining.

These two elements, combined with the election of a leading Victorian left-wing union official, Mr Jim Roultson, could give the anti-uranium forces control.

The other new man on the executive—the federal secretary of the Transport Workers' Union, Mr Ivan Hodgson—also takes an anti-uranium stand.

DEBATE TODAY

Union observers note that the formation of the new executive will not alter the balance of power in time for the major congress debate on uranium today.

Congress will consider a move by the ACTU executive to accept uranium mining at Nabarlek and Ranger in the Northern Territory as a reality.

This move would significantly change ACTU policy against providing labour for new uranium mines.

The ACTU senior vice-president, Mr Cliff Dolan, will move for all labour to be withdrawn from these mines.

The ACTU president, Mr Hawke, will speak in favour of accepting the operation of these mines. He is confident that congress will vote to change its policy in accordance with the executive recommendation.

Hawke Speaks in Defense

Melbourne THE AGE in English 14 Sep 79 p 1

[Report by Michael Gordon]

[Text] Unions could not effectively ban uranium mining, the ACTU president, Mr. Hawke, claimed yesterday.

Bans would be an exercise in futility, he told the ACTU Congress.

Ineffective bans on the Newport power station in Victoria had made the unions "look bloody stupid", he said.

"The last thing the trade union movement of Australia needs is a national Newport. It's stupid enough to have a Newport in Victoria."

The congress will vote today on proposals to strengthen opposition to uranium mining and export.

A bitter debate on the proposals yesterday was highlighted by an attack on Mr. Hawke by his long-time friend Mr. Cliff Dolan, the ACTU's senior vice-president and one of the supporters of a tougher policy.

The anti-uranium lobby is confident that congress will vote for a tougher stand.

Mr. Dolan's supporters say they will win by 20 votes out the 576 to be cast.

Mr. Dolan told the congress that if Mr. Hawke was prepared to give as much support to its uranium decisions as he had to other issues "we would be in an entirely different position today".

He told Mr. Hawke he would do a wonderful thing for the union movement if he used his "outstanding media personality to do a job in regard to this dirty, lousy industry".

The ACTU executive recommends that mining at Ranger and Nabarlek be accepted as "a reality".

The executive strengthened its recommendation only slightly in response to Left-wing pressure yesterday.

Campaign

Mr. Dolan moved an amendment that the ACTU immediately begin a campaign to convince workers in the industry of the dangers and consequences of mining uranium.

His amendment said there had been no developments to justify a retreat "from our policy of opposition to the mining and export of Australian uranium".

Mr. Dolan's amendment seeks to bring union policy into line with the ALP policy of support for a moratorium on mining and processing and the repudiation of contracts entered into by non-Labor Governments.

The policy proposed by the executive seeks a moratorium on development beyond Ranger and Nabarlek to be reviewed at the next ACTU Congress, in Sydney in 1981.

Mr. Hawke was loudly hissed when he said workers from affiliated unions were working at the Ranger and Nabarlek uranium sites in the Northern Territory despite the ACTU's policy.

"I've flown over Nabarlek, I've seen it, and by the end of this year, in fact in 14 weeks from now, it will be mined out.

"The operation will have finished. Now there weren't phantoms there mining... they were all members of the Australian trade union movement serviced by Australian trade unions," he said.

Reaffirmed

Mr. Hawke reaffirmed his belief that leaving uranium in the ground would not solve any problems.

He will speak again immediately before the vote is taken and is still hopeful of having the executive proposal accepted.

The State secretary of the Amalgamated Metalworkers and Shipwrights' Union, Mr. John Halfpenny, criticised Mr. Hawke's use of the Newport argument.

"The mere existence of something has got nothing at all to do with the merits of what is right or wrong," he said.

Since the 1950s there were 120 accidents in nuclear power stations, including 21 since the ACTU's 1977 congress decision, ah said.

"I put it to you as a matter of principle: Should we aid and abet those who profit from exposing workers to dangers?"

Mr. Halfpenny said nuclear waste disposal systems had not been tested, "even to the point that thalidomide was tested before it was imposed on the market".

New Zealand Leader's Speech

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Sep 79 p 10

[Text]

THE volatile debate on uranium was opened early yesterday by the president of the New Zealand Confederation of Labor, Mr Jim Knox ... to the embarrassment of the ACTU president, Mr Hawke.

As a guest of the congress, Mr Knox was asked by Mr Hawke to speak for 15 minutes.

Within minutes he was outlining the New Zealand union movement's devout opposition to uranium mining, atomic tests and nuclear warships, and receiving loud applause from left-wing union delegates.

Mr Hawke, who knew he was facing a close contest less than two hours later when he would be trying to persuade the congress to adopt the new uranium policy, was clearly embarrassed by Mr Knox's speech.

Indeed, when Mr Knox looked to him and described him as "my very good friend" Mr Hawke laughed and said: "I think you might be stretching the friendship a bit, Jim."

Spurred on by a sympathetic audience, Mr Knox told of the waterfront strikes that occurred whenever a nuclear warship entered New Zealand's ports.

He said New Zealand was fortunate not to have uranium.

When Mr Knox ended his speech, saying he was certain the trade union movements of Australia and New Zealand would always be closely allied, the left-wing delegates gave him a standing ovation.

Canberra Newspaper Supports Hawke

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Sep 79 p 6

[Editorial: "The ACTU Must Give the Nod to Uranium"]

[Text]

HEAD-COUNTING at the ACTU congress in Melbourne shows that the executive's proposal to allow unlimited uranium mining at Nabarlek and Ranger has about an even-money chance of being accepted by the 761 trade union delegates. If the recommendation founders when the issue goes to a vote today, the subsequent bitter disputes and costly delays will be a tragedy for Australia.

The president of the ACTU, Mr Hawke, has shown great courage in pushing the uranium mining issue, and deserves resounding support. Traditional left-right allegiances should not be allowed to cloud the fact that if Australia does not emerge as a long-term supplier of uranium, some other nation with fewer scruples about who buys the material will step in to fill the void.

Mr Hawke yesterday put the problem in perspective in his usual succinct, colorful, way: "Reality demands that we come to terms with the fact that mining has occurred and will continue at Ranger, Mary Kathleen and Nabarlek. Do you think that we will do the union movement a service by creating a national monument

to the futility of a moral decision which you can do bugger-all about?" He went on to say that the unions had as much chance "as a snowflake in hell" of stopping mining at Ranger.

Another interesting suggestion by Mr Hawke, providing food for thought to the assembly, was that the ACTU would start to die the day the union movement made decisions based on policy of the Australian Labor Party or any other political party. This was a barb at the A.L.P.'s unreasonable policy that the mines can be developed to supply uranium for existing contracts, but then must close when the orders are satisfied. It defies the realities of economics.

These are the inescapable facts: Nuclear power has been found so far to be the only viable energy-generating alternative to coal and oil. The world wants uranium to fuel this process, and it will get the material from elsewhere if Australia refuses supply. At the same time, Australia needs the jobs and the money that unlimited development and mining will provide. It makes plain common sense to lift the bans and go ahead.

Congress Rejects Proposal

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Sep 79 pp 1, 16

[Report from Paul Murray]

[Text] Melbourne: The ACTU congress yesterday overwhelmingly rejected an executive proposal which would have given union approval to uranium mining at the Ranger, Nabarlek and Mary Kathleen sites.

The congress handed out a stiff rebuff to the ACTU president, Mr Hawke, when it replaced the proposal with a left-wing amendment in a 512-to-318 vote.

Observers said that it was Mr Hawke's worst defeat in his 10 years as ACTU president. It comes only two months after a damaging rift developed between Mr Hawke and the Federal Opposition Leader, Mr Hayden, at the ALP conference in Adelaide.

The amendment, which reaffirms ACTU opposition to the mining and export of uranium and supports the ALP's moratorium policy, was passed amid scenes of jubilation by its supporters on the floor of the congress and in the visitor's gallery.

Earlier, Mr Hawke had warned the congress that it would destroy the credibility of the ACTU if it supported a policy that could not be effected.

Union action

Technically, the new policy leaves the way open to unions to take action about the 900 workers presently employed in the uranium industry. However, the congress made no directives and it is understood that action will be left up to the unions involved.

In a fiery reply to the debate, Mr Hawke verbally lashed the opponents of the executive's recommendation.

He strongly criticised the secretary of the WA Trades and Labor Coun-

cil, Mr Peter Cook, the federal secretary of the Transport Workers Union, Mr Ivan Hodgson, the Federal ALP front-bencher, Mr Tom Uren, the federal secretary of the Australian Railways Union, Mr Ralph Taylor, and the Victorian secretary of the AMWSU, Mr John Halfpenny.

Mr Hawke accused Mr Cook of having different private views on uranium mining in WA than those he espoused at the conference.

Mr Cook was the last speaker in the debate. He made a strong fight against the development of uranium mines in Australia.

Mr Hawke claimed that Mr Cook had told him several times in private conversations that the trade union movement could not stop uranium mining in WA.

"He said here in his debate that if we fight we can do it," Mr Hawke said.

"Well, it's all right getting up in front of 800 delegates and making a fighting speech. But it is a bit different from what you say in private conversations.

"In private conversations you said it doesn't matter what we do, we can't stop them."

In his criticism of Mr Hodgson, Mr Hawke said that the trucks that took material to both the Ranger and Nabarlek mines were driven by TWU members.

He said: "Did the TWU—either through federal secretary Hodgson or in any other way—give ad-

vice to their high moral principle by telling those members: 'You are not to transport machinery and the fabricated buildings.'

"Of course they didn't. The TWU are in this up to their neck."

Disappointed

Outside the congress, Mr Hawke said that he was disappointed at the result. He realised that some people would regard it as a massive personal defeat.

Asked if he believed the ACTU could enforce the new policy, he said: "We will have to wait and see. The evidence suggests that it is going to be difficult."

"But the policy is decided and as far as I and others are concerned we will have to give responsible effect to it."

Mr Hawke said that it would be up to individual unions to decide what action they would take on members who were working in the uranium industry.

The new policy would not cause a conflict with the Federal Government, but any future industrial action could do so. Some people were anticipating industrial action.

"We will have to wait and see," he said.

"The fact is that there are people mining now and there are people building new mines and the unions haven't been able to stop that. Whether new action will be attempted only time will tell."

NOT ALONE

Mr Cook said that the union movement was not on its own in the fight against uranium.

"We are part of a community movement," he said.

"We have wide support within the community. We are in a favourable position to fight—let's do it."

Mr Cook said that those people who had retreated from the ACTU policy had tarnished the union movement.

There was high unemployment in the Eastern Goldfields since gold and nickel mines were closed by Western Mining Corporation.

"One might say that WMC had gone about closing their mines to create a pool of unemployment in the Kalgoorlie area to have factory fodder for their uranium mining development later," he said.

Mr Cook said that workers in the Kalgoorlie area were concerned about the problems of low-level radiation contamination in uranium mines.

"Cancer doesn't tell you what causes it," he said.

"The workers don't want to put their bodies where the radiation is."

"They support the ACTU policy—at a time of high unemployment."

Mr Cook said that the union movement had not won the fight at Nabarlek and was in great danger of losing Ranger.

"We will win this by persuading people," he said.

"The ACTU is in a unique position to do that for workers. We should embark upon that aggressively. That is the constructive role of the ACTU."

Mr Cook said that Pancontinental's development had to be stopped but first Ranger and Nabarlek would have to be stopped.

NONSENSE

Outside the congress, the ACTU's senior vice-president, Mr Cliff Dolan, who moved the amendment, said that Mr Hawke's claim that the policy would destroy the ACTU's credibility was nonsense.

There would always be some unions who would not follow the ACTU's recommendations. This would have to be examined.

"The people who are working at these mines could have their supplies stopped," he said.

The main points in the new ACTU policy are:

- Continuing opposition to the mining and export of uranium and the present programme of development, including the proposed establishment of a uranium enrichment plant.

- Support for the Federal ALP policy of a moratorium on the mining, processing and export of uranium and the repudiation of non-Labor government commitments until satisfactory safeguards are met.

- A campaign to be undertaken to convince the Australian people and those presently working in the uranium industry of the dangers and consequences of uranium mining.

- No developments had taken place that would justify a retreat from the existing policy as articulated at the previous congress and federal union conferences.

- The provision of Australian uranium to the world nuclear fuel cycle created problems relevant to Australian sovereignty, the environment, the economic welfare of Australians and the rights and well-being of the Aboriginal people.

In CANBERRA, the deputy Prime Minister and Trade and Resources Minister, Mr Anthony, said he was disappointed that the congress had not

accepted the reality of the uranium situation.

The world was "necessarily and irrevocably" committed to nuclear energy, and it would be futile for Australia to ignore that.

Failure to become part of the world nuclear power industry would not only be futile, but would also deprive Australia of economic benefits, including many jobs, and seriously affect relations with some of Mr Hawke's major trading partners.

courage and realism.

In DAEWIN, waterside workers have welcomed the policy decision.

The WWF branch secretary, Mr Brian Manning, said that it was now up to Mr Hawke and the executive to knuckle down and enforce the wishes of the trade union movement.

An all-ports conference involving rank and file waterside workers would be held the week after next and would provide clear directions on the handling of uranium ore at all Australian ports.

Stage Set for Split

Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 15-16 Sep 79 pp 1, 2

[Report by Chief Political Correspondent Malcolm Colless]

[Text] The stage is set for a bitter split in the union movement, following the ACTUS Congress decision on Friday to ban unlimited uranium mining.

The ban, which affects Ranger, Nabarlek and any future uranium mines, is a crushing defeat for the president of the ACTU, Mr Hawke, and other moderates in the union movement.

Reaction was sharp and immediate.

In Darwin, representatives of the 11,000 uranium miners said they would not take the slightest notice of the decision. They are members of the Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union and they are being paid \$400 to \$700 a week. The men said there was no way they would give up this kind of money.

In marked contrast, waterside workers in Darwin welcomed the ACTU decision. The federal executive of the Waterside Workers Federation will meet in Sydney on Monday to make a national plan.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Anthony, declared that uranium mining would go ahead. Nothing could stop it.

And Mr Tony Grey, chairman and chief executive of Pancontinental Mining, speaking from West Germany where he is on a trade mission to discuss uranium exports, told *The Australian* previous bans had not stopped construction of Nabarlek and Ranger, and the latest decision would not have any effect on the development of Australia's uranium deposits.

Bitter clashes



The decision could mean: MINING companies may be less willing to continue their overseas sales drive and foreign countries reluctant to sign uranium contracts:

INVESTMENT in the uranium mining industry, including that for equipment and infrastructure, could decline:

AUSTRALIA could lose its attraction as a favorable country for foreign investment:

UNPRECEDENTED inter-union fights over participation in mining and the ultimate export of uranium:

ADVERSE effects on Australia's domestic economic development, and

BITTER clashes between government authorities and unions if bans were implemented to stop mining or prevent the export of uranium.

The ACTU's senior vice-president, Mr Cliff Dolan, the force behind the anti-mining movement, predicted there would be industrial action to ban the manufacture of equipment used in the Australian uranium industry.

The ban will not stop uranium sales contracts signed before 1972.

But these contracts cover such small quantities of ore compared with the large scale of known deposits that development might not be justified to fill existing orders alone.

Four companies have signed contracts to supply uranium before 1972.

They are Queensland Mines, for about 2270 tonnes of ura-

nium oxide to Shikoku Electric Power Company of Japan, between 1977 and 1984; Mary Kathleen Uranium, for about 1125 tonnes; and Peko-Wallend and EZ Industries, to supply Chubu Electric of Japan with about 1320 tonnes between 1977 and 1982, and to supply Kyushu Electric of Japan with about 2030 tonnes between 1977 and 1986 — a total of 3350 tonnes.

The decision dramatically highlights the significant shift in power to the left.

Left-wing union leaders on the new 21-member ACTU executive are certain now to demand a tough stand against uranium mining.

This would bring the ACTU into direct conflict with those unions whose members are now working in the uranium industry and who intend to continue doing so.

These include two of the most powerful unions in the country — the right-wing Australian Workers Union and the left-wing Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union.

Mr Hawke pleaded through a marathon debate for the congress to take a more realistic approach.

The left-wing mustered devastating support among the 761 delegates and overwhelmingly defeated the official resolution, which would

have allowed mining at Nabarlek and Ranger.

Instead they accepted a call for a uranium ban by Mr Deane, by 512 votes to 318.

In a highly emotional and bitter attack on his opponents, Mr Hawke said rejection of his proposal would destroy the credibility of the ACTU.

He warned that the rejection of uranium mining could well lead to unionists being fined for imposing industrial action to back this up.

"If you reject this you will only be forcing up the cost of living in other developed countries," he declared, accusing his opponents of "moral luxuriating".

Shift to the left



Mr Hawke accused his opponents of hypocrisy and said they were talking "bloody nonsense".

"There is nothing you can do, about uranium mining," he said.

He acknowledged that the debate had been one of the most important which the ACTU Congress had ever had to deal with.

The outcome is particularly important to Mr Hawke because he must now face an executive with boosted left-wing strength and an overwhelming opposition to uranium.

The debate also saw a flare-up in relations between the in-

dustrial and political wings of the Labor movement, with Mr Hawke attacking Labor's Federal spokesman on urban and regional affairs, Mr Uren - a fervent anti-uranium campaigner.

He referred to Mr Uren as "that well-known wizard of Canberra and one of the intellectual giants of the Labor Party".

Mr Hawke said Mr Uren had accused him of acting in concert with the DLP over the uranium issue.

"Uren can do what he likes, but he needn't expect if he comes out with that sort of garbage it will go unnoticed and unmentioned by myself," he said.

Mr Uren said on Friday that a future Labor Government would not repudiate its anti-uranium mining policy.

"There are some people high up in the party who are saying a future Labor Government would make it all right for the uranium miners," he said. But this was not so.

Mr Hawke's proposition called on the congress to face the reality that mining was going on and would continue at Ranger and Nabarlek, in the Northern Territory, and Mary Kathleen in Queensland.

But the left-wing amendment which won the day called on the congress to support the federal A.L.P. policy of a moratorium on the mining, processing and export of uranium and the repudiation of non-Labor government commitments until satisfactory safeguards were met.

The new policy says there have been no developments which would justify changing the existing ACTU policy of opposition to the mining and export of Australian uranium.

This means that the union movement is now bound by this hard line for the next two years.

Mr Dolan said later outside the congress that the new executive would, in accordance with the new policy, move to launch a national campaign to convince the public of the dangers and consequences of uranium mining.

Unions which defied ACTU policy could find themselves isolated, he warned.

The federal secretary of the Miscellaneous Workers Union, Mr Ray Gietzeit, who supported Mr Hawke's recommendation, said later his members would continue to work in the uranium industry.

Development costs at Ranger will be at least \$100 million.

It would be financial suicide to develop the deposit for the sake of the 3350 tonnes, which at current prices would be worth a total of about \$370 million. [Paragraph as published]

Congress Decision Scored

Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 15-16 Sep 79 p 1

[Commentary: "Stuffing up the Nation"]

[Text]

WHAT a way to stuff up the nation! The majority of trade union leaders don't want full-scale uranium mining. They voted that way at the ACTU Congress in Melbourne on Friday.

It was a momentous defeat for the president of the ACTU, Mr Hawke. It came on top of the loss of two of his key supporters on the executive, Mr Charlie Fitzgibbon and the former junior vice-president, Mr John Ducker (could he have seen the writing on the wall?)

We all must be worried about Mr Hawke's capacity to hold the unions on a reasonable course.

The defeat on uranium is a severe blow to the moderates in national industrial

affairs. It is guaranteed to sap confidence at home and credibility among outsiders looking in — those people we expect to invest in mining and industrial development in Australia.

They must be horrified by the week's events.

Rejection of Mr Hawke's realistic arguments mean there will be strife where there might have been consensus.

There are suppliers other than Australia who can step into the supply vacuum.

Like lemmings, our unionists are on a British-style course toward self-destruction, seeking confrontation on any issue.

The nation will be the loser.

Realism Versus Idealism

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Sep 79 p 6

[Editorial: "Uranium"]

[Text]

The Idealism of the Left has won out against the realism of Mr Hawke. The rejection by the ACTU congress of his plea for a common-sense policy on uranium puts the trade union movement back to square one.

The congress has done nothing to resolve the most contentious issue faced by the trade union movement for some years. Indeed, the divisions have been exacerbated. Mr Hawke's prestige is bruised after his biggest reverse in the organisation he has dominated for 10 years; those unions which want to be involved in the uranium industry will continue to treat ACTU policy with contempt; those which are implacably opposed to uranium development will continue their fight, though with greater vehemence. The rift within the trade union movement over uranium will widen as a consequence.

The arguments that Mr Hawke put to the congress were strong. He warned that ACTU credibility was on the line because unionists already involved in the Ranger and Nabarlek projects would continue to put their jobs and well-being ahead of an anti-uranium policy. But his most telling point was one that all Australians should recognise—if Australia left its uranium in the ground it would forfeit its right to have a say in how the world will harness the resource.

The congress decision will be applauded by those who see nothing but danger in the use of nuclear energy. It will especially please the Labor Party, which last week appeared to face the embarrassing prospect of seeing its industrial ally set a conflicting course.

But the decision will disappoint Australians who accept the realities outlined by Mr Hawke. Beyond disappointment, many people will probably feel concern at the mounting influence of the Left in the ACTU.

There has been notable evidence of this in the impractical and selfish stand taken by the congress on wages (a potentially disastrous stand as far as the unemployed are concerned) and in the sabre-rattling over the coming court sequel to the Karratha arrests in June.

These signs—plus the possible departure of Mr Hawke for the parliamentary arena—suggest that Australia's industrial scene is to become more turbulent yet.

Warning from Prime Minister

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 15 Sep 79 p 2

[Text] Darwin.—The Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) last night signalled tough Government action against any unions that sought to disrupt the mining and export of uranium.

"We have things we would do, put it that way," he told a press conference in Darwin.

"The mining will go ahead, and that is the reality. Let there be no mistake about that."

Mr. Fraser was responding to questions about the A.C.T.U. Congress decision on uranium and reports that waterside workers, at least in Darwin, would follow the A.C.T.U.'s decision and refuse to handle equipment for the mines.

Mr. Fraser had just completed talks with Northern Territory Chief Minister, Mr. Paul Everingham, followed by separate talks with the Aboriginal Northern Land Council.

He said the Federal Government was committed to uranium mining as was the Northern Territory Government.

Production at the Ranger mine in the

Northern Territory is expected by mid 1981. Work began on the site earlier this year.

Uranium is also expected to be moved from Queensland Mines at Nabarlek by the end of next year.

Mr. Fraser described the Australian Council of Trade Unions decision as a disappointment, and said it was a rebuff to union president Bob Froese who had "behaved with responsibility".

However, he added: "This is not going to make any difference to the mines that are developing in the Northern Territory, also those developing in Western Australia, or that ought to be developing in South Australia, if the State Government there had any concern for jobs and getting movement and life into South Australia."

Admonition to Hawke

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 17 Sep 79 p 1

[Report by Robert Bennett]

[Text]

THE Leader of the Opposition, Mr Hayden has warned the president of the ACTU, Mr Hawke, that he must toe the line on Labor Party policy - especially on uranium - if he wants to enter Federal Parliament.

Mr Hayden told a press conference in Perth yesterday he expected the A.L.P. to win the next federal election and Mr Hawke's expertise would be welcomed.

But Mr Hayden rejected Mr Hawke's attitude to uranium mining and said decisions made at the ACTU congress would not change A.L.P. policy.

He said Labor's policy had been decided in 1977 and would remain until at least its next federal conference in 1981.

The policy was that uranium mining could not go ahead until certain technological and environmental safeguards were introduced, Mr Hayden said.

He said all party members were bound by the policy and it would not have made any difference if the ACTU congress had voted against it.

"The unions do not dominate the A.L.P.," Mr Hayden said. "They make their decisions separately and whatever they decide is their affair."

Mr Hayden said he did not think Mr Hawke would suffer from his defeat on uranium at the ACTU congress.

"Mr Hawke knows you win some and you lose some - it's true of public life," he said. "He is a very resilient person, has a commendable record and enjoys widespread respect as a trade union leader."

Mr Hayden - who was in Perth for an A.L.P. conference on mining, energy and jobs - said he did not know whether Mr Hawke's view on uranium would hinder pre-selection.

The West Australian Minister for Industrial Development, Mr Mensaros, said the State's Yeelirrie project would proceed despite the ACTU decision to ban uranium mining.

Mr Mensaros said that although key unions would support the ban there would be enough labor for the \$320 million project to go ahead because many workers were more interested in a job than an ideology.

The West Australian Premier, Sir Charles Court, in a stinging attack on the ACTU vote, said Mr Hawke sought to exchange his industrial position for a safe seat in Federal Parliament because of the "overwhelming victory" of the far left at the congress.

Sir Charles said Mr Hawke and other moderates such as Mr John Ducker were leaving the union movement because they knew they had lost to the left and that there was no place for them in industrial organisations such as the ACTU.

The West Australian Premier said this total dominance by the extreme left at the ACTU congress was one of the most serious threats Australia had ever faced.

"The nation has been given notice of a ruthless industrial and political campaign by the left, aimed at the very heart of our democratic processes and our economic well-being," he said.

"I see tough times ahead."

West Australian's Stand

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 19 Sep 79 p 5

[Text] Canberra: The Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, Mr Viner, yesterday criticised the stand on uranium mining taken by the secretary of the WA Trades and Labor Council, Mr Peter Cook, at last week's ACTU congress.

He told the House of Representatives that Mr Cook was one of four union officials whom the Government consulted in making its decision in August 1977 to proceed with uranium development.

The three other men—the ACTU president, Mr Hawke, and officials, Mr John Ducker and Mr W. Kelly—had supported uranium mining.

Mr Cook was the person who stood out in the group that the Government consulted.

"We know from Mr Hawke's statements to the ACTU congress that in private conversations Mr Cook said he believed that uranium mining should and would go ahead," Mr Viner said.

"However, what did he do? He rattled on his mates in front of the ACTU congress—he denounced the Government's decision."

Events at the ACTU congress and the South Australian election result showed that the public would support the Government in seeking uranium development, Mr Viner said.

PILOT PLANT

In PERTH yesterday Western Mining Corporation said it was confident that its pilot treatment plant for uranium at Kalgoorlie would go according to schedule despite opposition from the ACTU and individual unions.

But Mr Cook said that unions would be called on to ban any work associated with the plant, which is stage one of the \$320 million Yeelirrie project.

"This would include construction and the fabrication and transport of equipment."

WMC is calling tenders for work on the \$21 million plant, due to be completed within three years.

Subject to a final feasibility study, work at the mine site is expected to be carried out in the following three years.

WMC's director of operations, Mr K. F. Parry, said that there seemed to be no objections to the plant from goldfields union, and residents.

A July meeting of goldfields unionists had backed the project, with a rider that health aspects of working the plant should be studied and regulations on the findings implemented.

Asked about the strong stand of the Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwrights' Union and the Electrical Trades Union to the mining and processing of uranium, Mr Parry said: "All I can say is that in spite of these unions' policies their members are involved in the industry in the Northern Territory."

The unions expected to be directly involved in the mining process would be the Australian Workers' Union and the Federated Engine Drivers and Firemen's Union.

The WA secretary of the AWU, Mr G. Barr, has said that the union was in favour of the industry and it would not be swayed by the stand of the ACTU or the TLC.

The FEDFU's secretary, Mr J. Bainbridge, said before the ACTU congress that the union would support the ACTU policy.

Cook Rejects Criticism

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Sep 79 p 4

[Text]

The secretary of the WA Trades and Labor Council, Mr Peter Cook, yesterday rejected criticism of his stand in the uranium debate.

He accused the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, Mr Viner, of eight errors of fact in a statement in the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

Mr Viner said that when the Government consulted the ACTU before its August 1977 decision to go ahead with uranium mining, Mr Cook

had been the only one of a four-man delegation against the mining.

He claimed that privately Mr Cook believed that the mining should and would go ahead but at the ACTU congress in Melbourne last week he had denounced the Government's decision.

Mr Cook's position had been out of line with that of the three other ACTU officers, including its president, Mr Hawke.

Mr Cook said yesterday that the four had not discussed the issue with the Federal Government before August 1977.

There had been two meetings in 1978 and there were records of the meetings to show that the four union officers had no difference of opinion.

The president of the TLC, Mr W. S. Latter, who is Mr Cook's proxy delegate to the ACTU, said yesterday that he was fully conversant with Mr Cook's views on uranium mining.

At no time had Mr Cook indicated to him a belief that mining should be allowed.

AUSTRALIA

URANIUM DEPOSITS ESTIMATED AT OVER 500,000 TONS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 17 Sep 79 p 1

[Report by J. N. Pierce]

[Text] Australia has discovered more than half-a-million tonnes of uranium oxide since 1970, making it one of the biggest potential suppliers in the world.

Development delays have meant that not one tonne of these new discoveries has so far been exported, enabling producers in such countries as South Africa and Canada to secure contracts for later discoveries.

Australian production is unlikely to reach significant proportions before 1985.

At present there is one small operating mine (Mary Kathleen in north-west Queensland), three projects which have received Federal Government approval (Ranger and Nabarlek in the Northern Territory and Yellirrie in Western Australia) and two others which are awaiting approval (Jabiluka and Koo-ngarra in the Northern Territory).

Significant discoveries have also been made at Roxby Downs and Beverley in South Australia but are so far blocked from development by the State Government ban on uranium mining.

The Mary Kathleen mine resumed production early in 1976 after being mothballed for more than 11 years following completion of its original contract with the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

It is now producing at an annual rate of more than 850 tonnes of uranium oxide and last month surprised share markets by reporting an \$8.8 million profit for the first half of 1979 in marked contrast to the \$1.5 million loss incurred in the corresponding 1978 period.

The small but high-grade Nabarlek deposit, first discovered in April, 1970, is now being mined in preparation for a scheduled start to uranium oxide production next February.

Nabarlek's grades, averaging 1.84 per cent, are the richest in Australia but its deposit of about 9,500 tonnes is expected to be mined out in eight years. The company has contracts for the sale of 2,930 tonnes of uranium oxide, written before the Labor Government election in 1972.

The Ranger project, in which the Federal Government is calling for offers for its 50 per cent interest, is on schedule, aiming at beginning production in October, 1981, and is within cost estimates of about \$300 million.

It has uranium oxide reserves of more than 100,000 tonnes and holds contracts — also written before the end of 1972 — for 3,300 tonnes.

The Yellirrie deposit of at least 47,000 tonnes in Western Australia will be developed in two stages.

Design work is under way for a Kalgoorlie pilot plant which will operate for about three years before output is expanded to about 2,500 tonnes of uranium oxide a year at a capital cost of more than \$300 million.

Full-scale production is not expected to be reached before late in 1984.

The Jabiluka deposit of about 172,000 tonnes is so far the largest in Australia in the absence of reserve figures for the huge Roxby Downs deposit in South Australia.

The Jabiluka project aims to start production in 1982 but the Federal Government has held up environmental approval until further conditions are met.

Similarly, Government approval has yet to be given for development of the 13,300 tonne Koo-ngarra deposit. A draft environmental impact statement was filed earlier this year.

Uranium company executives were unwilling to comment publicly yesterday on the ACTU Congress decision, but some queried whether the ban would be enforceable.

"I don't think that their own members are going to wear it," one said. "They have had this embargo on uranium mining but we've had no difficulty in getting labour."

COMPANY REPORTEDLY HAS STRONG HAND IN URANIUM 'GAME'

Melbourne THE AGE in English 18 Sep 79 p 21

[Commentary by Business Editor Terry McGrann]

[Text]

THE South Australian election result has given Western Mining Corporation an impressive hand in the coming 1980s poker game over uranium contracts.

WMC — which has built a record as arguably the best explorer/miner in Australia — is the only group with a finger in two big yellowcake pies.

Of equal importance, both are outside the Northern Territory uranium province with its particular problems and hold-ups over the environment and Aboriginal land rights.

WMC men found both big deposits, at Yealirrie in WA and at Olympic Dam on the Roxby Downs station in SA, and until recently fully owned both.

However, in both cases WMC has brought in one of the seven sisters of world oil — Exxon at Yealirrie and BP at Olympic Dam — to fund the development.

Both deals were brilliant and original in conception. At Yealirrie, Exxon effectively funds the development by buying the output; at Olympic Dam BP guarantees to find the cash for WMC.

Olympic Dam will be particularly expensive. At least \$1000

million and probably \$1500 million will be needed as the ore body is 300 metres and more below ground. But it is probably the richest mineral deposit in the country.

No reserve figures have been given yet (and they won't be for some time as a great deal of work is necessary before that stage).

But it seems certain that Olympic Dam contains far more uranium than any of the NT mines and at least as much copper as the famous Mt. Isa or Broken Hill lodes. (In fact Doug Anthony has been quoted as saying it contains as much copper as all the rest of the mines in the country combined.)

Yealirrie, with about 45,000 tonnes of contained uranium oxide, is slightly less than half as big as the two main NT mines, Ranger and Jabiru, which are both in the 100,000 tonne-plus category.

Ranger is certain to follow the small but rich Queensland Mines Nabarlek project into production, probably about 1983.

But the individual Ranger partners, Peko Wallsend and EZ Industries, and whoever buys the Government stake have to line up contracts.

In the case of the two WMC mines, at least half the outputs

are virtually guaranteed sales outlets through BP and Exxon. The two sisters will pump the uranium into an energy (outside Australia) hungry world.

However, neither of the WMC mines is likely to come on stream before 1985 when WMC and its partners believe a fresh surge of demand for new uranium ore will start.

Pessimist commentators have argued that demand won't be there. That will be determined by the outcome of the battle between the environmental groups — which want to turn out the lights and the jobs in the world — and the developers.

Assuming slack demand, Yealirrie/Olympic Dam can't be viewed as an either/or situation. WMC is manager of both projects but "go" decisions will be decided by the joint venture partners.

Yealirrie is likely to go before Olympic Dam, in about 1984 or 1985. But the world copper price outlook could either bring Olympic Dam forward — or put it back even further.

AUSTRALIA

REPORT PRAISES LUCAS HEIGHTS RADIATION SAFETY STANDARDS

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Sep 79 p 24

[Text]

CANBERRA: Radiation safety at the Atomic Energy Commission's Lucas Heights research station in Sydney equals the highest international standards, says a health report.

The report on a health survey of workers at the station also declares that there has been no evidence of any ill effect from exposure to radiation, uranium or beryllium.

Nor has there been evidence of cancer being caused by radiation or chemical exposure on the job, it says.

The report compiled by an occupational and environmental health expert, Professor David Ferguson, of Sydney University, was publicly released yesterday to allay staff anxiety over possible ill health arising from working conditions.

The report said that the reporting of incidents and accidents involving chemical substances and processes had increased over recent years.

This was probably the result of the reinforcement of the requirements of reporting, it concluded.

PLEA TO SET UP NATIONAL NUCLEAR ACCELERATOR

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 16 Oct 79 p 9

[Text] Dr Raja Ramanna, Scientific Adviser to the Defense Ministry and Secretary for Defense Research, has suggested that the question of setting up a national nuclear accelerator for research, particularly on the possibility of obtaining energy by direct conversion from a nucleus, should be taken up, reports PTI.

Atomic energy, defense and space research establishments, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and other public and private sector organizations should take up this issue. The time had come when no single organization could be made responsible for the work in any branch of science, he said.

He was delivering the tenth Dr S. Bhagvantham Birthday Commemoration Lecture here yesterday.

Dr Ramanna said: "We spend a lot of time on deciding who should do it, rather than how all of us can pool our resources, financial and manpower-wise, to put ourselves in the forefront of world science."

The main thing is to get together and get the job done. In fact, in this way it will not be a big financial burden on the country.

He said there had been suggestions for an accelerator of this type in India and several suggestions had been worked out for preliminary consideration. The confidence was there, especially after the setting up of the variable Energy Cyclotron, "an excellent machine built entirely by Indian scientists" in Calcutta.

Dr Ramanna said unfortunately the V.E.C. could not be used because of lack of power in Calcutta. However, the scientists had not been wasting time but making important modifications and preparations so that "when stable power supply returned to Calcutta, we will be in big business again."

He explained that the suggestions for a national accelerator had been put forward following new developments which had resulted in an entirely new field called nuclear magcrophysics coming into being. The importance of this field was enhanced by the fact that it indicated possibilities of how to convert mass to energy more efficiently than in the fission process.

CSO: 5100

JAPAN

TEST PLANT FOR COLLECTION OF URANIUM FROM SEAWATER PLANNED

OW231135 Tokyo KYODO in English 0942 GMT 23 Sep 79 OW

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Sept 23 KYODO--The Government will spend about yen 1.5 billion for the construction of a test plant on the inland sea coast of Shikoku to collect uranium from seawater.

After the plant is completed in Nio, Kagawa Prefecture, in the first half of 1984, it will be operated for two and half years to produce 10 kilograms of uranium a year. If all goes well at the test plant, the government will expand the project to construct a full-scale plant with an annual uranium production capacity of one ton from seawater.

The construction of the test plant will be undertaken by the governmental Metal Mining Agency of Japan with cooperation of Tokuyama Soda Co., Asahi Chemical Industry Co., Mitsubishi Metal Corp. and Taisei Corp.

The test plant will attempt to increase the content by 3,000 times by using titanium oxide absorbent. The concentration will then be brought up to 0.28 per cent, which is higher than ordinary uranium ore, by using ion exchange resin for final extraction.

A larger test plant to further improve the technology is needed, according to officials at the Natural Resources and Energy Agency.

CSO: 5100

JAPAN

MITI ANNOUNCES LEAK OF RADIOACTIVE GAS

OM280520 Tokyo KYODO in English 0505 GMT 28 Sep 79 OM

[Text] Tokyo, Sept 28 KYODO--The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) announced Friday the leakage of radioactive gas waste Thursday from a reactor at the Kansai Electric Power Company Nuclear Power Station in Oi, Fukui Prefecture. MITI's Natural Resources and Energy Agency said the leak occurred when gas from the tubing linked with the chemical and volume control tank at the No. 1 pressurized water reactor was being sampled. The Agency said the gas leaked out through a stack installed at the reactor auxiliary building.

A spokesman for the Agency, however, ruled out the possibility of air contamination by the leaked gas. The spokesman said the gas was believed to contain 3 curies of radioactivity--a negligible amount compared with the offgas control target of 73,000 curies in a year. He attributed the gas leakage chiefly to the fact that the drain valve was left open too long.

The Nuclear Safety Commission, which received the report on the leak from the Natural Resources and Energy Agency, said the handling of the drain valve was inappropriate. The Commission decided to seek a detailed report from the Agency on the accident.

CSO: 5100

JAPAN

NEW TECHNIQUE FOR RECYCLING N-FUEL DEVELOPED

OW011255 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 1 Oct 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo Oct 1 KYODO--Nuclear energy experts of Japan's Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation have taken the lead in the world in developing technology for converting strong solution of plutonium and uranium extracted from spent nuclear fuel into a powder for re-use as nuclear plant fuel.

According to sources close to the corporation, the technology of recycling the solution of mixed nuclear substances into a powder is the first of its kind to be developed in the world.

The government is expected to explain the new technology in detail to American nuclear experts at the Japan-U.S. talks for further extension of the operation of the spent nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in Ibaraki Prefecture, scheduled to be held in Tokyo next Wednesday.

The sources said the researches successfully extracted some two kilograms of plutonium-uranium mixture in powder form by heating a solution of mixed nuclear fuel for two or three hours in an experimental plant in Ibaraki Prefecture.

The nuclear fuel powder has proved to be of very high quality containing 95 percent nuclear substance, enough to be used in a nuclear breeder reactor, the sources said.

During heating of the solution in a microwave oven, all nitrates were evaporated and only powdered plutonium and uranium were found left in the oven, according to the sources.

The corporation has plans to use this newly-developed technology at the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant to be built in Ibaraki Prefecture, they said.

But the technological study on know-how covering the entire process of extracting the mixture of the spent nuclear fuel reprocessing plant [as received] is still in a developmental stage.

The sources said it would take more time before completing all industrial technology necessary for the commercial operation of the new process.

CSO: 5100

PAKISTAN

UN ENVOY SPEAKS ON NUCLEAR, FOREIGN POLICIES

Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Oct 79 BK

[Excerpt] Pakistan has again told the UN General Assembly that nuclear energy offers the only economical and practical answer to its energy requirements and that its nuclear program is designed only for peaceful purposes.

The Pakistan chief delegate, Mr Agha Shahi, addressing the assembly last night, debunked the villification campaign being carried out against Pakistan by a section of the international news media and pointed out that Pakistan's record in pursuit of disarmament and nonproliferation was impeccable. He said Pakistan had always supported the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency and consistently pursued the establishment of a nuclear weapons-free zone in South Asia. It has suggested a joint declaration by the countries of the region committing them to the renunciation of nuclear weapons. Pakistan has even proposed reciprocal inspection of nuclear facilities and was prepared to explore with India other ways to insure nonproliferation in the area. Mr Agha Shahi called for unconditional guarantees by major nuclear powers against the use of threat of use of nuclear weapons against nonnuclear weapon states. He welcomed the conclusions of the meeting of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean calling for the total elimination of great power presence and rivalry and measures to insure conditions of peace and security, including the denuclearization of the area.

CSO: 5100

WORK SUSPENDED AT URANIUM PLANT

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 13 Oct 79 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 12.—Work has been suspended at Pakistan's uranium enrichment plant, being built at Kahuta, a few kilometres from here, reports Reuter quoting sources.

They said it was not clear whether the stoppage was temporary or indefinite, but it was believed to be linked to an irregular supply of parts from clandestine purchases in Europe.

Nuclear scientists were believed to be having trouble with equipment, and design faults had arisen, the sources added.

Pakistan's martial law Government announced on Wednesday that Foreign Ministry officials would meet the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr Cyrus Vance, in Washington next week to discuss bilateral and regional issues.

The nuclear issue has been the only souring point in relations between the two countries since Pakistan was founded in 1947.

The issue is expected to dominate the talks between Mr Vance and Mr Agha Shahi, Foreign Affairs Adviser to General Zia-ul-Haq.

It will be the first high-level meeting between the two countries after General Zia came to power.

The USA cut off its annual aid of \$40 million to Pakistan in April according to the terms of the Symington Amendment. According to it funds will not be given to any country using nuclear technology for military purposes.

Several European countries and the USA were convinced that Pakistan's research programme was aimed at manufacturing a nuclear device.

However, General Zia asserted that Pakistan's nuclear programme

was for peaceful purposes.

The Kahuta project is the main uranium enrichment installation in the country. It is being guarded by militias.

BRIEFS

THIRD NUCLEAR CENTRE--A Nuclear Agricultural Centre, now under construction at Peshawar, is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Competent sources here said the project was part of the programme to utilize nuclear techniques for the preservation of food and reduction of losses in foodgrains. Two Nuclear Centres for Agricultural Research are already functioning at Faisalabad and Tandojam. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 5 Oct 79 p 9]

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPANDED--The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission's programme for the exploration of nuclear minerals has been gradually expanded and several new radioactive anomalies were discovered during the outgoing financial year. At Karachi coast, a heavy mineral sands area was also located. The new area discovered near the Hub river is in the form of a lenticular body containing good percentage of Zircon. The exploration work continued at Thakot and in areas of Kaghan valley. Detailed geological mapping marking the structural features related with the uranium mineralization have been completed. The drilling targets have been ascertained. Recent investigations have shown occurrences of uraninite, a crown uranium mineral in Thakot area. Basic area processing studies have been completed. The results have shown that the uranium can be upgraded by gravity-separation methods but the leaching process is still under study. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 20 Sep 79 p 8]

CSO: 5100

SLOVAK PAPER ON CEMA'S NUCLEAR POWER PLANS

Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Sep 79 p 7 AU

[Article by Juriĭ Sinakov: "Two Systems--Two Approaches to the Fuels and Energy Problem: Before the Lightning Strikes"--passages in capitals published in boldface]

[Excerpts] It is generally known that the main centers of crude oil production have been shifting to the east and north of the Soviet Union--to regions with more complex conditions. **IN ORDER TO TRANSPORT CRUDE OIL AND GAS FROM WESTERN SIBERIA TO EASTERN EUROPE IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO BUILD SEVERAL PIPELINES OF WHICH EVERY ONE WILL BE LONGER THAN THE 1,000 KM LONG UNDERGROUND SOYUZ PIPELINE.**

It is clear that the fraternal countries are aware of the efforts the Soviet people have to exert to extract the natural wealth hidden in Siberia. The socialist countries are not only participating in the implementation of the energy plans on USSR territory, but the CEMA countries have also launched a movement aiming at the greatest possible conservation of fuel used for the production of electricity, as well as the reduction of electricity consumption in production enterprises.

It has been decided to increase the share of solid fuels in the production of electricity, and also to use fuels with a lesser calorific value, such as brown coal, shale and lignite. **THE SOVIET EXPERIENCE IN THAT SHOWS THAT THE CHEAPEST ELECTRICITY IS PRODUCED BY POWERPLANTS BURNING SHALE.** The reserves of black and brown coal and of lignite in the European CEMA countries have been estimated at approximately 105 billion tons. Their extraction will insure fuel supplies for additional thermal power plants. CEMA's target program in the energy sphere mobilizes all known reserves.

Construction of New Nuclear Power Plants Is the Most Important Aspect of the Program

After the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and GDR are becoming members of the global "nuclear energy club," Hungary, too, will soon join the ranks of countries producing energy with the aid of fissionable uranium. Now it is the turn of nuclear power plants in Cuba, Poland and Romania. In view of their real needs, all states of the socialist community are developing nuclear power engineering.

In 1990, the total output of nuclear power plants in CEMA's European countries (in addition to the USSR) and in Cuba is to reach 37,000 megawatts. That has been determined by a long-range target program. IN PRACTICE THAT MEANS THAT THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS' TOTAL OUTPUT WILL MORE THAN DOUBLE IN EVERY FUTURE 5-YEAR PLAN. In order to fulfill that task, the states of the socialist community have prepared several coordinated measures--in advance--and not after the "lightning" of the shortage of the traditional types of fuels had "struck." For example, the construction of the giant atomash plant in Volgodonsk--built with an eye on the energy needs of the Soviet Union and its CEMA partners--is nearing completion. CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS ALREADY PRODUCING NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY--FOR ITSELF AS WELL AS FOR OTHER SOCIALIST STATES. IN THE CURRENT 5-YEAR PLAN, CZECHOSLOVAKIA ALLOCATED KCS8 BILLION FOR THAT PURPOSE. THIS SUMMER, THE CEMA COUNTRIES SIGNED A MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION AND MUTUAL DELIVERIES OF EQUIPMENT FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

Leading representatives of the Western countries have more than once voiced the desire to work out a uniform energy policy. However, the Western states always run into difficulties in the sector. There is the currency crisis, inflation, and strong competition of the oil monopolies. It is precisely the monopolies, using oil exports to enrich themselves, which are opposing a radical solution of the energy problem, and, in particular a stepped-up pace of nuclear powerplants' construction.

At present, for various reasons, three powerplants in the FRG had been mothballed; nuclear power plants built in Austria and Sweden are not producing industrial electricity; following breakdown, several nuclear power plants in the United States have stopped operating.

CSO: 5100

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

BRIEFS

NEW NUCLEAR POWERSTATION--Preparatory work is underway for the construction of a new nuclear powerstation in Mochovce near Levice in Western Slovakia. [Prague ZEMEDLSKE NOVINY in Czech 25 Sep 79 p 2 AU]

CSO: 5100

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

SAN RAFAEL 'LIKELY SITE'—Mendoza, 21 Sep (NA)—Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission, stated in San Rafael, 290 km south of here, that that city is "the most probable site" to install the fourth nuclear central to be built in Argentina. Castro Madero, who yesterday inaugurated there the uranium concentration plant of Sierra Pintada, where the largest uranium deposit in Argentina is located, said that when "the planned expansions have been finished in 1980," the plant "will become the most important one in the country." [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1139 GMT 21 Sep 79 PY]

CSO: 5100

BRAZIL

NUCLEAR PROGRAM MAY EXPERIENCE 5-YEAR DELAY

Depends on Plant Construction

Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Oct 79 PY

[Text] The Brazilian nuclear program may be delayed by 5 years. This is what Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals hinted in Rio de Janeiro. He said that the plan to meet the demand for electric energy anticipates the initial operation of the nine nuclear plants by 1995. The Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement anticipates the operation of the last nuclear plant by 1990.

The minister's advisers in Brasilia also stated that the nuclear CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] will not receive the Portuguese text of the Brazilian-FRG agreement. They warned that the president of the commission will be made responsible for any information leaks on the subject.

Commentator Blasts Nuclear Progress

PY021300 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Oct 79 PY

[Alberto Tamer commentary]

[Text] At a meeting yesterday with the Superior Energy Council, Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals announced that he has plans to build eight nuclear plants beginning in 1980 and that the program will not be concluded by 1990 as originally planned, but by 1995. This means that the project to generate 10 million kw will be delayed 5 years.

If the minister feels that he will be able to elude public opinion during these 5 years he is absolutely wrong, because the people are perfectly aware, as aware as the minister himself, that 10 million kw of unnecessary nuclear energy will cost at least \$30 billion either by 1990 or 1995, \$30 billion which the electric energy sector does not have to pay for, energy which this sector does not need because there are at least 200 million kw of hydroelectric capacity to be installed.

It is a pity that Minister Cals had already made this decision because he, considered to be an expert in the sector, knows very well, as we do, that he is making a mistake, a very serious mistake, with regard to the country's economy and the nation. This plan, either by 1990 or 1995, is definitely impossible. It is a plan which cannot be carried out because it is unnecessary, and is far beyond the nation's capabilities.

BRAZIL

MINISTER CALS SAYS COUNTRY MAY EXPORT NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

PY260334 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 26 Sep 79 FY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro--There are great opportunities for Brazil to export nuclear technology, not only to Mexico, but also to other countries--especially those of Latin America--and several agreements are already underway to this effect, Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals stated upon opening a seminar on Mexican-Brazilian trade. He regarded as positive the balance between the negative and positive aspects of the nuclear agreement with the FRG, and he guaranteed once again that the agreement will be maintained, not because Brazil's honor might be at stake but because it needs nuclear technology.

CSO: 5100

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

CESP PROPOSED AS BUILDER--Itumbiara (Goias)--Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals will propose today to President Figueiredo that the next two nuclear plants, after the three nuclear plants in Angra dos Reis, be built in Sao Paulo territory by CESP (Sao Paulo Power Plants). The proposal is counterposed to NUCLEBRAS' [Brazilian Nuclear Corporation] desire that all electronuclear plants be built by its subsidiary, NUCLEN [NUCLEBRAS Engineering, Inc.] The minister's idea of relinquishing the construction of the next two nuclear plants to CESP indicates that NUCLEBRAS' old demand will not be accepted--the demand to delegate all responsibility to its subsidiary, NUCLEN. This demand has always encountered strong opposition in the electric sector. [Excerpts] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Oct 79 p 19 PY]

NUCLEAR SUBMARINE CONSIDERED--According to Navy Minister Adm Maximiano da Silva Fonseca, Brazil is already thinking of building a nuclear submarine. Although no details on the project have been given yet, the admiral referred to the long period of time which would be required to carry out such a task, and stated that if a project with that objective were approved today, the submarine would only be ready for operation in 15 years. [Text] [Sao Paulo Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Oct 79 PY]

ENRICHMENT COMPLEX FOR PARANA--The industrial-mining complex for uranium extraction and enrichment which the Brazilian Nuclear Corporation was to build in Itatiaia, Ceara State, will be built in Figueira, Parana State. The new complex--which will be similar to the one built in Poco de Caldas, Minas Gerais State--will yield up to 500 tons of uranium concentrate annually. [Text] [Sao Paulo Bandierantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Sep 79 PY]

CSO: 5100

PARAGUAY

CNEA SETS GUIDELINES FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

PT031145 Asuncion HDY in Spanish 1 Oct 79 p 11 PY

[Text] Energy production has now become one of the most important factors in the economy of developing countries. In this regard, Paraguay is making important progress. In fact, the possibility of generating nuclear energy is now being added to the advanced state of development of the gigantic Itaipu Dam and the recent Paraguayan-Argentine agreement to build Yacyreta Dam. With this in mind, during a recent meeting the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) decided to set general and specific guidelines with the objective of giving our country atomic energy in the near future. Those objectives and the policies to be implemented include: The general objectives include the implementation of scientific, technical and industrial efforts in nuclear matters for peaceful purposes and the use of the human and natural resources of the country in this field in order to contribute to the consolidation of national development.

The special objectives are: to develop the applications of nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes and radiation technology in general; develop continuous research in nuclear programs for peaceful purposes; produce more specialized scientific and technical personnel in the nuclear field, insure their permanent training and occupation and encourage them to remain in the country; develop nuclear plans for peaceful purposes within the framework of international treaties and agreements signed by the government; develop an appropriate system of radiation protection for institutions and persons who work with radiation; develop the means to protect the population and the environment against the possible effects of nuclear radiation; and increase research and development related to nuclear fuels.

The CNEA approved the following plan to fulfill its objectives: give high priority to national interests in the development, production, use and control of nuclear energy; carry out necessary studies to determine the possibilities and applicability of various forms of nuclear energy for peaceful use in our country in order to set priorities appropriately; promote the growing application of nuclear technology; formulate short-, medium- and long-range research and development plans in the nuclear field, searching for the most adequate nuclear reactor technology for the country; organize a Latin American system of cooperation in the nuclear field; promote the exchange of information supplies, inputs, installations and technical nuclear assistance with members of the IAEA; give more status to scientific and technical personnel, stimulating their specialization and desire to remain in the country; and promote the inclusion of nuclear electrical energy in the national energy plan as an alternative to satisfying future demands for electrical energy.

IRAN

NUCLEAR ORGANIZATION CUTS STAFF, MAY BE DISBANDED

ID040751 Tehran BANDAD in Persian 30 Sep 79 p 10 LD

[Unattributed report: "Staff of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran To Be Reduced to 1,500"]

[Text] The staff of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran is to be reduced to 1,500 and these employees will engage in research. This follows suspension of the work on two atomic power stations, one at Bushehr and the other at Ahvaz, and the cancellation of similar projects which were to have been implemented after Bushehr and Ahvaz.

Foreign staff working on these projects left Iran, and for this reason difficulties arose as to how the specialities of and services of a section of the staff might be utilized. In addition, a number of graduates who had gone abroad to take special courses, particularly in Germany, found that on their return there was nowhere that their specialities could be employed. Finally, the Atomic Energy Organization announced a reduction in the staff.

Some 4,500 members of staff consequently found themselves jobless and other staff members are to be absorbed by other government organizations if needed. In this way the number of staff remaining will fall to 1,500, and even these employees may be transferred elsewhere if necessary.

It is said that the research programs at the Atomic Energy Organization might possibly be discontinued and the organization itself disbanded, but despite numerous visits it was not possible to contact Eng Faridun Sahabi, acting head of the organization, to verify the accuracy of this information.

CSO: 5100

SAUDI ARABIA

PAKISTANI NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTED

Jiddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 5 Aug 79 p 2

[Commentary by 'Adnan Kamil Salah: "Pakistan and the Islamic Bomb"]

[Text] The European and American press are waging a joint campaign against Pakistan because it is quite possible that Pakistan may produce an atomic bomb in the near future. This campaign comes in the wake of Israeli intelligence reports concerning 'Abdul-Qadir Khan, who they said headed the atomic bomb production project and who they claimed obtained valuable information and expertise for producing atomic material through a new process Holland was developing. This process is noted for its speed and simplicity and he acquired this information surreptitiously in his work in Dutch atomic plants. What concerns commentators who write in the European and American press is that Pakistan's dream of producing an "Islamic bomb" will be realized and that the bomb may then fall into the hands of many Arab states, and perhaps the Palestine Liberation Organization as well.

The commentators have exaggerated in regard to the Islamic bomb, either deliberately or by relying in information from Israeli intelligence. They consider it a matter which calls for increased pressures on Islamabad to halt the atomic bomb production project.

The latest information speaks about the possibility that Pakistan may detonate an atomic bomb this coming October. It is not clear whether or not this information is factual or just part of a psychological campaign against Pakistan and a campaign to mobilize public opinion to do what it can against Pakistan, since the initial published reports and the information available to several nations indicates that Pakistan is making use of the French nuclear reactor, which the Americans pressured France not to complete; and the nuclear plant which was set up in accordance with the Dutch process will require several more years to complete and put into service before reaching the point where production of an atomic bomb can begin.

Those who speak about the month of October as the date for the first Islamic nuclear detonation say that China may have given Pakistan parts of an atomic bomb, which the Pakistanis will assemble and detonate for domestic political purposes.

It is strange that there are such widespread feelings of concern over Pakistan's producing an atomic bomb and that there are voices which are quick to call for the imposition of sanctions against Pakistan to prevent it from producing an atomic bomb while at the same time not one voice is raised concerning Israeli nuclear power, nor does anyone demand that India stop assembling atomic bombs in a country whose people suffer from such abject poverty.

This international hypocrisy is unacceptable. It does not stop other small nations from producing the atomic bomb, which American Mafia gangs are bragging they can produce. Instead, the solution may lie in a just international diplomacy which does not compel one to seek a nuclear weapon to defend itself and in an earnestness which the great powers should display not merely in limiting arms but in entering a countdown to get rid of nuclear weapons and similar weapons.

Until that time comes, we welcome Pakistan as the first Islamic nation to join the nuclear nations club.

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NIGER

BRIEFS

URANIUM MINING COMPANY--The Constitutive Assembly of the Tassa N'Taghalgue Mining Company (SMTT) was held yesterday at the Ministry of Mines and Hydrology. This company, in which Niger holds 50 percent of the shares, has a registered capital amounting to 7 billion CFA francs. Its aim is to exploit a uranium field, which has reserves estimated at more than 20,000 tons, in Arlit zone. They will need about 4 years to build all the installations necessary for the extraction and the treatment of this ore. Production, amounting to 1,500 tons per year, should start by the end of 1983. At that time, SMTT will employ about 1,200 persons. [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 25 Sep 79 p 1 AB]

CSO: 5100

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

SPD CONTINUES DEBATE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY

Hamburg DPA in German 1605 GMT 7 Oct 79 LD

[Excerpts] Hamburg—At regional congresses this weekend the SPD continued its search for a united energy policy which is to be formulated at its national congress in Berlin at the beginning of December. Different positions were taken.

Western Westphalia, the largest SPD area in terms of membership, voted overwhelmingly for a strictly limited use of nuclear energy while giving priority to indigenous coal. The area congress thus voted for the SPD national executive's motion on energy policy, which is supported by Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

With the proviso that waste disposal be taken care of, the Northern Lower Saxony SPD area congress voted by a two-thirds majority for the construction of additional nuclear power stations. It called on the Federal Government to promote energy saving among the public more effectively and to pass laws if necessary. The Franconian SPD area congress also backed the national executive's line.

The Upper Bavarian SPD area congress voted by a large majority for a "pause for thought." It said that no license for the construction of new nuclear reactors should be granted until the mid-1980s. The nuclear power stations already in operation should be subject to new and more stringent safety checks. Nuclear power stations under construction should be allowed to operate only after arrangements had been made for the final storage of nuclear waste.

The Schleswig Holstein SPD congress voted by a large majority for a policy of turning away from nuclear energy.

The Saarland SPD wants to keep the nuclear energy option open.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

STATEMENT ON BONN WANTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS REJECTED

Hamburg ¹⁹ DPA in German 1624 GMT 27 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Bonn—The Federal Government today strongly rejected the allegation by PCF chief Marchais that Bonn wants to get hold of nuclear weapons. A government spokesman emphasized that the attitude of the Federal Government and all leading West German politicians on this matter is clear. The Federal Republic renounced the manufacture of nuclear weapons as early as 1954. The spokesman was commenting on a speech by Marchais in the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

The spokesman drew particular attention to the statement made by Chancellor Schmidt last May: We are not a nuclear power and do not wish to become one; nor do we wish to allow the impression to arise that we want to become one.

The spokesman also recalled that the suggestion of a European nuclear power which had been privately aired in France had met with no response in Bonn. The white paper of the Federal Defense Ministry made it clear that the Federal Government in no way pursues this aim.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

SCHMIDT, LAND HEADS AGREE ON NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE

LD282354 Hamburg DPA in German 1922 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Summary] Bonn--Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and the Land heads of government this evening agreed on a joint approach for the future safe storage by West German nuclear power stations of their nuclear waste.

Lower Saxony Prime Minister Ernst Albrecht, (CDU), said in Bonn after the meeting of heads of government that approval can now be granted for building other nuclear power stations.

The main feature of the agreement is that in the future, apart from Borleben, other localities in the Federal Republic can be considered as possible sites for recycling plants. The Federal Republic is to develop the criteria for selection of sites and other storage techniques are to be examined.

C50: 5100

FUTURE CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS CONSIDERED MUST

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 3 Oct 79 p 17

[Article: "In Spite of Energy Conservation, Nuclear Power Plants Necessary"]

[Text] The Hague, October -- After 1984 the Netherlands will have to build some nuclear power stations, assuming that by then a satisfactory, possibly a temporary solution has been found for the safe storage of radioactive waste. This conclusion was reached by a study group at the Professor B.M. Telders Foundation, the scientific institute of the VVD [People's Party for Freedom and Democracy], in a report which was published today: "Energy Until 2000."*

According to this liberal vision of energy policy for the next two decades, nuclear energy is necessary because: 1. it is uncertain whether the energy conservation policy which is being pursued will be successful; 2. it is uncertain whether new environmentally safe coal technologies can be developed; and 3. it is not certain that the Netherlands will be able to purchase supplementary quantities of liquified natural gas (LNG).

Moreover, according to the study group, nuclear energy reduces political vulnerability. The group also thinks that the Netherlands should not forgo nuclear energy while other countries, with which we cooperate, do develop it. Other considerations which led to the positive advice on the building of nuclear power stations are: fewer environmental problems and the favorable effect on the balance of payments (less fuel imports).

As did the government in its Energy Policy Memorandum, the "Energy Until 2000" report pleads for a 30 percent energy savings for the year 2000.

The liberal study group estimated that this would necessitate yearly investments of up to 5 to 10 billion guilders (Minister Van Aardenne proceeds from an estimate of 3 billion guilders a year). The group believes that the government should make 500 to 1000 million guilders of this available

* Professor B.M. Telders Foundation. Publication No 35, "Energy Until 2000," prepared by a study group led by Dr G. Zoutendijk.

through subsidies and contributions. But in order to get the conservation policy off the ground, the government contribution for the first 5 to 10 years should be on the order of 1 billion guilders. (As is well known, the energy memorandum proceeds from a figure of 600 million guilders a year.)

The study group estimated the amount of Dutch energy consumption in the year 2000, including savings and partial conversion to alternative sources of energy (wind, sun, etcetera), at 90 million tons of oil equivalent, nearly 40 million tons less than would be necessary without conservation. These figures are based on a 3 percent economic growth a year -- a growth rate which the study group believes is necessary because "there are still many unfulfilled needs and because otherwise the problems of apportionment would become even more difficult." To make quite sure, the study group also worked out a scenario whereby energy consumption in the year 2000 would be about 10 percent higher, and would thus amount to 100 million tons of oil equivalent.

It is assumed that in the year 2000, 40 million tons of oil, 42 billion cubic meters of natural gas (35 million tons oil equivalent) and 22.5 million tons of coal (15 million tons oil equivalent) will be available. These expectations could lead to the conclusion that until the year 2000 nuclear energy will not be necessary. The fact that the study group nevertheless took a positive position -- a position which will contribute to the upcoming broad social discussion -- toward the building of nuclear power plants is related to the uncertainties with regard to the conservation policy, the use of coal and the purchase of extra liquified natural gas and to considerations such as: reduction of political vulnerability, international obligations, fewer environmental problems and a positive effect on the balance of payments.

Investments

The liberal study group expressed strong objections to compulsory measures for society to implement the energy conservation policy, such as carless days, the prohibition of products or activities with a relatively high energy consumption, etcetera. According to the authors of the report, in addition to causing an overall reduction of freedom, such measures also hit certain groups disproportionately hard.

Drastic measures such as carless days and gasoline rationing should only be imposed in a situation of acute shortage. The study group rejected the prohibition of non-essential activities such as advertisement flights, private flying, car races, etcetera, because it accomplishes too little and it affects certain groups disproportionately.

"Energy Until 2000" pleads in favor of trying to increase the quantity of imported LNG, for example up to 12 to 15 billion cubic meters a year. Nor should the generation of electricity be converted to oil, and more gas should be available for a longer period of time, for other large consumers as well. The study group does not believe that there is a need to worry about a more

rapid exhaustion of the gas reserves as long as all the small natural gas deposits are being exploited, including the one beneath the Wadden Sea. According to the study group, the latter can be done in an environmentally responsible manner.

There is a plea to build the first of the three proposed 600 megawatt coal fired power stations quickly enough to become operational as early as 1985 (rather than in 1989). The study group would also like to see the rapid development of a test plant for coal gasification. Our country could import a maximum of 22.5 million tons of coal, but "as long as the environmental problems related to such consumption have not been solved satisfactorily, however, the desirability and acceptability of such a quantity must be doubted," said the report.

Preliminary Investigation

The study group agrees with the proposed social discussion on nuclear energy. It has been proposed that the steering group function as a "Scientific Court," under the direction of a judge and assisted by independent expert witnesses.

The procedure should be as much like a judicial preliminary investigation as possible. Furthermore, the discussion should not remain limited to nuclear energy.

The liberal study group believes that in order to cultivate energy awareness among consumers, higher import prices should be completely passed on. The price of natural gas should be permanently tied to the price of home fuel oil and energy price increases should not be compensated directly in wages. On the other hand, it is suggested that extra government income -- which is not necessary for the carrying out of the energy policy -- due to more expensive energy should partially flow back to the private sector via a tax reduction. A gradual, automatic strengthening of the public sector is rejected.

According to the study group, levies on certain forms of energy consumption should have a global character; they should stimulate the development of more economical equipment. Because this does not apply to levies based on the price of a product (for example, extra taxes on expensive cars), the study group disapproves of such levies. Progressive rates for gas or electricity are also rejected because certain population groups would be more strongly affected by this.

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